



Northwoods Journal - June 2013

A Free Publication about Enjoying and Protecting Marinette County's Outdoor Life

<u>In This Issue:</u>	
2012 LWCD Accomplishments	1
Bird Hike at Harmony	1
LWCD Kid's Writing Contest	3
There isn't an App for Nature	3
Marinette Named Bird City	3
Annual Breakfast on the Farm	4
DNR State Parks Open House, Free Fishing Weekend	4
Locals win Tree Farmer Award	5
Preventing Oak Wilt Disease	5
Outdoor Burning Guidelines	6
Orphaned Wildlife & You	6
Parks & Forestry Office Moves	7
Area Events Calendar	8
Harmony Arboretum Calendar	8
Children's Learning Garden	8

Annual Bird Hike at Harmony



Birders at Harmony Hardwoods

Cleereman, Conservationist, on Saturday, June 15, at the Harmony Arboretum from 6:00-8:00 a.m. Learn to identify birds by sight and song, and enjoy the enery of the prairie and upland hardwoods. the years, about 80 bird species have been found here, including bobolink and black-billed cuckoo.

Binoculars and bird identification books will be available, but bring your own if you wish. The route is easy walking on internal trails and roads. Insect repellent is recommended. Harmony Arboretum is located seven miles west of the City of Marinette off of Highway 64, then ½ mile south on County E. For more information, call the LWCD office at 715-732-7780.



2012 Land & Water Conservation Division Activities

By Greg Cleereman, County Conservationist



The Land & Water Conservation Division (LWCD) is part of the Marinette County Land Information Department. We primarily work with private citizens, especially farmers and waterfront property owners. We also help local schools, units of government, other agencies and service groups. This article will give you a sense of how we served Marinette County's citizens in 2012. It does not cover everything we do, but highlights major program areas.

Agricultural Runoff Pollution

Most fish kills and contaminated wells around the state in recent years occurred when melting snow delivered winter spread manure to groundwater or lakes and streams. To prevent water contamination, we help farmers voluntarily install best management practices that end winter manure spreading and contaminated runoff.

The LWCD obtained \$615,295.83 in state cost We also designed practices and supervised construction for twelve cooperating landowners that installed:

2 Manure Storage Facilities

3 Barnyard Runoff Control Systems

1,385 acres of nutrient management planning

2 Manure Transfer Systems

1 Subsurface Drain 1 Barnyard Roof

11,830 Linear Feet of Livestock Fencing (for managed intensive grazing)

These projects ended winter manure spreading on 2,004 cropland acres and bring the cropland total area, no longer winter spread with manure, to more than 42,500 acres. 202 pounds of barnyard phosphorus went to manure storage facilities instead of reaching surface and ground

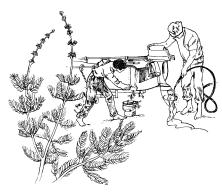


Aquatic Invasive Species

LWCD efforts to assist riparian property owners and control Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) have blended to the point of becoming inseparable. Common Reed (Phragmites australis) and Eurasian Water Milfoil have been especially problematic for hundreds of Marinette County landowners. To control these invasive plants, the LWCD continues to build and expand partnerships with other agencies, counties, local units of government, and service groups.

> AIS Trainings

In early summer, we offered Clean Boats, Clean Waters and Citizen Lake Monitoring Network workshops to teach citizens about AIS threats to our waters. Attendees learned to perform watercraft inspections, take boater surveys at boat landings and actively monitor invasive species in and around lakes and rivers. Citizen volunteers are crucial to our prevention efforts. Thank you to those that donated time to keep our waters healthy and free of AIS. Fortunately, we found no new significant AIS infestations in 2012.



Clean Boat Clean Waters Watercraft Inspection Program

The watercraft inspection program was hugely successful last boating season. Three paid watercraft inspectors worked landings throughout the summer educating boaters about the importance of preventing the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). The watercraft inspectors targeted busy boat landings on waters containing invasive plants and animals like Eurasian Water Milfoil and Zebra Mussels. It is safe to say boaters in Marinette County are more educated and aware of AIS issues because of these efforts.

2012 Watercraft Inspection Efforts

- 1,435 Boats Inspected
- ✓ 3,135 People Contacted

Key Waters Staffed

- Lake Noquebay
- High and Caldron Falls
- Sandstone Flowage
- Thunder Lake
- **Newton Lakes**
- Menominee and Peshtigo Rivers

Phragmites Control

The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant project to remove Phragmites along the shoreline of Green Bay continued. Helicopter treatments occurred in 2011 and sprayed approximately 735 acres. Last year, efforts focused on treating areas that the helicopter didn't spray in 2011. Precise treatment near tree lined embankments, lawns, and houses, required the use of small tracked vehicles with boom and hand sprayers.

Phragmites project highlights:

- 15 miles of Marinette County shoreline
- More than 1000 acres of Phragmites treated since 2011
- 318 Private Properties involved
- ✓ A diversity of native plants and wildlife already starting to return to coastal wetlands
- Shoreline views and access restored for hundreds of property owners

> WRISC

Marinette County continues to be an active partner in the Wild Rivers Invasive Species

Continued next page

Coalition (WRISC), a cooperative weed management area encompassing Marinette, Florence, and Forest Counties and Menominee and Dickenson Counties in Michigan. WRISC is the only weed management area to cross state lines, which is helpful because invasive species know no political boundaries. WRISC members share resources to prevent, detect, and manage invasive species. Public education about invasive species issues is a key component of prevention efforts. Marinette County LWCD joined forces with WRISC to eradicate a large Japanese Knotweed stand along the Peshtigo River. WRISC also helped fund watercraft inspectors and lent a power washer (useful for cleaning AIS off boats and trailers) to LWCD.



Invasive Species Coalition

Eurasian Water Milfoil Control

Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM) is a very aggressive aquatic plant that has spread to 21 county lakes since 1979. EWM spreads easily by fragments caught on trailers and boat motors. These plants form dense beds that restrict navigation and even fish movement.

EWM control efforts continued on Thunder and Beecher Lakes. Early season herbicide treatments were very successful on both lakes, reducing EWM populations to more manageable levels. On Little Newton Lake, three years of intensive management have nearly eradicated EWM. In 2011, divers pulled scattered EWM plants from the lakebed where it was once abundant. Unfortunately, new colonies were later discovered in the lake and a late season herbicide treatment was again required.

LWCD staff followed up on a 2011 experimental drawdown of Beecher Lake to evaluate its use as a EWM control method. Beecher Lake dam has a fixed crest with no gates to alter the water level, so LWCD staff and Lake District members installed siphons to remove water from the lake. Sedimentation near the dam made it impossible to draw the lake down enough to control EWM. The LWCD worked with the Beecher Lake District to modify the dam and dredge the lake bottom to facilitate a deeper drawdown (below).



A hydraulic plant harvester, partially funded by a DNR grant, was nearly completed. The harvester incorporates a large pump mounted on a pontoon boat and a system to collect plants and fragments. The harvester also delivers a supply of air to a diver who vacuums individual plants from the lake bottom. LWCD staff will harvest pioneer aquatic plant infestations too small to justify herbicide treatment and provide follow-up control after chemical treatments.

Environmental Education

The following quote provides the rationale for our environmental education programming. "In the end we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught."

Exposure to outdoor activities and natural wonders helps people understand and appreciate nature. The *Teaching Outdoor Awareness and Discovery*



The TOAD trailer at Camp Bird

(T.O.A.D.) program is the heart of our educational efforts. T.O.A.D. started in 2001 with a modest 26 programs delivered to 1,461 individuals. *In 2012, 7,155 people attended 233 T.O.A.D. programs.* TOAD is a collection of nature study and monitoring equipment LWCD staff bring anywhere within Marinette County. One full set of equipment, shared by all eight school districts, is the smartest use of limited funds and resources. Home school groups, scouts, 4H, UW-Marinette events, and adult groups also utilize T.O.A.D. programs.



A viewing jar with Wood Frogs found under a log

We also help administer Harmony Arboretum, located seven miles west of the City of Marinette on County Highway E. This 460 acre property has a prairie (with a new serenity circle), an interpretive nature trail through old growth hardwoods, and a diverse native plant community. The Northern Lights Master Gardeners Association, Chappee Rapids Chapter of the Audubon Society, Marinette County UW-Extension, WDNR and other agencies help us offer recreation and education.



The property centerpiece, the demonstration garden, was built and improved through the tireless efforts of the Master Gardeners and UW-Extension staff. The demonstration garden is free and open year-round. Among the latest Demonstration Garden projects is the Children's Learning Garden (CLG). The CLG will provide an opportunity for children to learn about gardening, experience nature close up, and gain a better appreciation for the natural world. The CLG is nearing completion. Stop out and see the 32-foot mural at Chipmunk's Tunnel, sundial, garden maze, and wetland demonstration.



The Children's Learning Garden wetlands area

2012 Educational Highlights

Using LWCD canoes, we helped Peshtigo Elementary teach canoeing and kayaking skills to 190 5th and 6th graders

Held the 7th annual Sand Lake Conservation Camp for 73 6th-8th graders, who learned about conservation concepts and outdoor skills

Held four Environmental Field Days for 489 4th Graders and adults who learned about 8 different conservation topics

Provided an extensive display at the Marinette County Fair promoting natural shoreline which featured live reptiles, amphibians, fish and aquatic insects visited by 1,662 people

210 students (grades K through 12) from 10 County schools participated in the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Association Environmental Poster Contest

Completed our 7th year of offering the *Northwoods Journal* at local businesses. About 5,000 FREE papers were distributed each month, June through September

Wildlife Damage and Abatement Program

The LWCD administers a WDNR program to reimburse participating farmers for damage from wildlife, especially White-tailed Deer. Hunting license fees and bonus permit sales fund the program. Marinette County has the largest program in the state, more than double the enrolled acreage of the second place county. The program also provides hunters access to agricultural lands during regular hunting seasons for species causing damage and for which the participating farmer received reimbursement. Farmers simply wanting defend their crops without receiving reimbursement can apply for shooting permits to harvest animals causing damage. For high value crops, landowners can apply for cost sharing abatement practices including wildlife proof

Wildlife Damage program highlights included:

47 farms participated in the program

Appraised Approximately 9,763 acres for damage

Opened Approximately 5,520 acres to public hunting

The main crops appraised were alfalfa and

Marinette County had more crop acres damaged than any other county in Wisconsin

For the second year in row, Black Bear damage to crops decreased

The Venison Donation Program is an important part of the Wildlife Damage Program and pays for processing donated deer given to local food pantries. 104 deer were donated in 2012, resulting in approximately 4,700 pounds of ground venison.

If you would like to participate in any Marinette County program, need help with something not described above, or simply would like more information, just contact our office at the Courthouse at 715-732-7780. You can also visit us online at www.marinettecounty.com.



Northwoods Journal Online

Would you like to read current issues of the Northwoods Journal online? Go to www.marinettecounty.com and click "Northwoods Journal" in the Quick Links menu at the right of the page. We can send an e-mail reminder when each new issue is posted online. Contact Anne Bartels, Information & Education Specialist: abartels@marinettecounty.com or call 715-732-7784 for more information.



Just for Kids – the 2nd Annual LWCD Writing Contest!



Tell us your story . . . have you ever had a close encounter with wildlife? Did you visit a farm and get to feed the animals? How about the big fish in grandpa's pond that got away? Share your story about that great camping trip with the family that you will never forget!

This is a contest for kids in grades 6 to 9 and grades 10 to 12. Your story should be no more than 500 words, and be about nature and/or the outdoors in Marinette County. Make sure your name, grade in school, address, phone and/or email is listed on your entry. Your story should be typed, single spaced as a WORD document.

First place winners in each division will have their story appear in the September edition of the Northwoods Journal published by the Land & Water Conservation Division. The two winners will receive 4 entry passes to the Marinette County Fair!

Stories are due on or before August 9, 2013.

Your entry should be brought or mailed to the Land & Water Conservation office no later than August 9, 2013. Please mail to:

My Story Contest - LWCD 1926 Hall Avenue Marinette WI 54143-1717

You can also email your entry to adirienzo@marinettecounty.com - please put 'My Story' in the subject line.

Marinette Named a Bird City!



Marinette is now a Bird City! Thanks to the efforts of the Chappee Rapids Audubon Society, the city was awarded the title this year by Bird City Wisconsin. "After being approached by members of the Chappee Rapids Audubon regarding this program, there was great support from city hall. Starting with Mayor Denise Ruleau and her staff, the city forester Todd Lapacz and the city council all did their part to make this happen in rapid time. The City is well blessed with natural features and a local government committed to enhancing bird habitat and viewing opportunities in the future". (Excerpt from the Chappee Rapids Reporter, Volume 29, No.1 – spring 2013).

Bird City Wisconsin is a program supported by the Wisconsin Bird Conservation Initiative (WBCI). They wanted a program that could do for communities and their bird life what Tree City USA has managed to accomplish in the field of urban forestry. For more information about the Bird City Wisconsin program and its history, visit http://www.birdcitywisconsin.org.

For more about birding in our area visit:

- <u>http://craudubon.com</u> The Chappee Rapids Audubon Society
- <u>www.newiaudubon.org</u> The Northeastern Wisconsin Audubon Society

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There isn't an App for Nature – Do You Know Where Your iPad is at All Times?

The following article is by Brian Gibbs, a Naturalist for Clayton County Conservation in Iowa, where he annually gives 400 classroom programs on environmental education and directs over 40 nature field trips a year to natural areas. Source: www.childrenandnature.org.

Today, many school districts in Clayton County, lowa are instituting the use of iPads as an educational tool. These machines are being used from kindergarten classes all the way up through high school. Schools require the students to sign an iPad pledge containing a list of appropriate behaviors with the iPad. A few statements from the pledge include: I will take good care of my iPad, I will never leave my iPad unattended, and I will know where my iPad is at all times.



According to the U.S. Center for Media Literacy, fewer than 5 percent of schools teach media education. Why not have a class dedicated to teaching the risks of media consumption rather than insisting all children need to have an iPad in their hands and know where it is at all times?

In a 2011 New York Times article, Larry Cuban. professor emeritus of education at Stanford University, suggested that millions of dollars in financial resources currently being invested in iPads would be better spent to recruit, train and retain teachers. Cuban wrote, "There is very little evidence that kids learn more, faster or better by using these machines...iPads are marvelous tools to engage kids, but then the novelty wears off and you get into hard-core issues of teaching and learning." Studies published by the Media Education Foundation in 2005 found that the average American child spends over 40 hours a week in front of a screen, equivalent to working a full-time job. This study was produced five years before iPads were being used as an educational tool in the

In the 2005 documentary film Remote Control: Children, Media Consumption & the Changing American Family, Hillary Rodham Clinton implied her concern with media consumption by saying, "With some additional research, the case will be conclusive that we are causing long-term public health damage to many, many children and therefore to society." The lack of outdoor play in today's wired generation is linked to the increasingly disturbing trends of childhood obesity, attention disorders and depression. Furthermore, a 2010 survey done by the Iowa Department of Health indicated that 37 percent of lowa children were either overweight or obese, leading lowa to rank 8th nationally in the prevalence of childhood obesity.

Part of my job as a naturalist is to give classroom programs on the environment. Throughout the winter months, I give hundreds of programs to thousands of school children in the county. The following accounts are not happening in every school I visit; however, they are occurring on such a high rate that I feel compelled to share a few observations to go along with statistics mentioned above.

This past December, I walked into a classroom full of second graders scattered in different parts of the room. Headphones were covering their ears and eyes focused solely on the screen in front of them. The students were so unaware of their surroundings that the teacher had to physically remove the headphones from their ears. I thought possibly these students were just

using their iPads as a brief educational tool. Yet, I observed the daily iPad schedule included using the machines for Math, Science, History, and Reading.

Before holiday break, I observed twenty-two papers posted outside of a 2nd grade classroom. The students' task was to color in a picture of a bear and answer the question "When little bear sleeps, I will be..." *Nine* of the twenty-two responses said they would be "playing video games."

Upon walking inside the entryway of another elementary school, I was greeted with a poster asking parents to donate money for the purchase of more iPad applications. The poster stated how critical it was for the students to become exposed to technology as it becomes more integrated into their daily life. A separate school in Clayton County displays iPad posters throughout their hallways, showing a child how to correctly hold his/her iPad using the stem-to-belly method.

The most sincere encounter I have had recently with the overconsumption of media in schools occurred when a veteran middle school teacher in Clayton County spoke to me of her frustrations over iPads in her classroom: "As teachers, we are made to feel we are doing a disservice to the kids if we don't teach them how to use this technology right now.... I have to work so much harder to implement one handson activity in an hour of class, yet more and more, I go home sad because of this difficult transition."

Interestingly, this was the same class where students repetitively asked me if I had some animal they could touch. With proper media education and limited media consumption, iPads and their educational applications can be an engaging educational tool. Age-appropriate instruction should embrace not only the Iowa Core Curriculum standards but also seek to promote a healthy, creative and stimulating lifestyle.



A great forewarning is already occurring in Idaho, where Virtual Academies are being offered to students in grades K-12, subsequently replacing the need for school-based learning. When we decide where and how our children will learn, consider that when a child born today turns 30 years old, they will have spent nearly 10 years of their life in front of a screen — a full decade of <u>watching</u> life instead of <u>living</u> one.

Postscript: One week after I wrote the article, a local school in my county became the first school in lowa to announce they will be offering a virtual academy to their students next year.



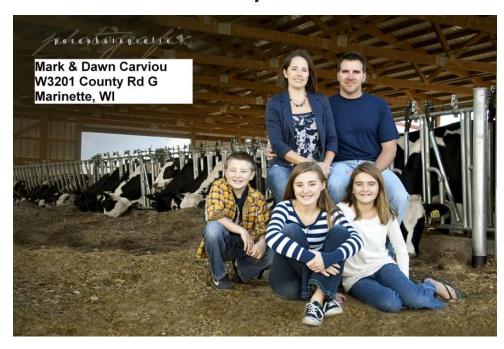


MARINETTE COUNTY BREAKFAST ON THE FARM

Sunday, June 30, 2013 7:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

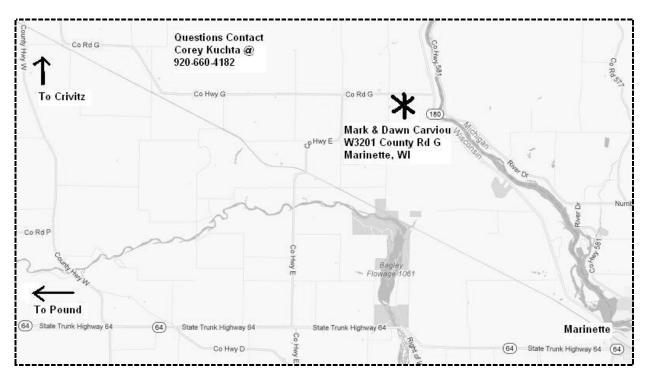
Carviou Dairy was built in 1952 with a partnership between Robert and Ken Carviou. The brothers farmed together until 1986 when Robert & Marianne purchased Ken and Kate's share of the farm. Mark was 12 at the time when his dairy career started. In 2006 Mark & Dawn purchased the farm from his parents, adding some cows and updating the facilities. Improvements include heifer and dry cow housing, manure storage and bunker silos. Their herd consists of 85 milk cows, 85 head of young stock and 10 Angus beef cows. Crop land includes 350 acres growing corn and hay for the dairy herd. Custom operators are hired for the majority of fieldwork, with day to day help being provided by the family: Mark, Dawn, Marley, Maya, & Marcus.

Come to their farm and join them for breakfast!



Pancakes, eggs, sausages, cheese curds, maple syrup, applesauce, milk, juice, coffee, ice cream sundaes Petting zoo, face painting, balloons, kids bouncy play area, viewing of barns & cattle, wagon rides, & live music

(No advanced ticket sales) Adults - \$6.00, Children 6-10 -\$4.00 Children 5 yrs. & under - FREE



Thank you to the following the 2012 Breakfast on the Farm in money or in kind donations:

Gold—\$300 & Over A&C Sawdust Ag Ventures LLC American Food Group Bayland Building Inc. Beaver Brook Maple Syrup Beaver Machine Inc. BelGioioso Cheese Inc Charter Fuel Cornette Farm Supply & VitaPlus Dan Risner & Son Excavating Dan, Sue, Eric Van De Walle Dave, Julie, Trevor Bushmaker **Dumke Brothers** Erik's Garden Center Genex Co-op, Jeff Jahnke, Jeff Fischer Graese Electric Greenstone Farm Credit Services Hosking Electrical Services Hunter's Glen Golf Course Jerry & Tricia Zeitler Jim & Carla Bushmaker Kuchta Farms Dean Foods Land O' Lakes John Veriha Trucking Larsen Cooperative Lee's Family Foods

M&I—BMO Financial Group Marinette County Farm Burea Meatski's N-K-S Tire Sales & Service NorthReach Healthcare Patz Cooperation Pelkins Piggly Wiggly Peshtigo Feed Mil Petal N' Roots Greenhouse Peters Concrete Co Ranks Northern Distributing Inc. Saputo Cheese USA Scott & Kay Reuss Springside Cheese Corp Troy & Katie Van De Walle Van De Walle Farms Vanderloop Equipment Waste Management Wisconsin Public Service Witts Piggly Wiggly Witts True Value

Silver—\$100 to \$300 Agropur Inc Animart Associated Bank Beaver Trading Post Carriveau Insurance Crivitz Veterinary Clinic Inc. Dairy Equipment LLC Dairy Farms of America Dairvland Seed Co Inc. Dan Bieber Equipment LLC Dennis Graef Trucking Dr. Kevin Pepin

Equity Livestock Auction Donna & Terry Reed Gendron's Inc. Zeitler Agri-Center Inc. Zorn Trucking **Graef Livestock Trucking** Graetz Mfg. H.J. Dudkiewicz & Sons Inc. Hoida Construction Holley's Harvest Ideal Tent & Party Jandt Farms Katie's Sub Shop Kotecki Veterinary Service Kozlovsky Dairy Equipment Inc. Wagner - Casper Insurance Agency WI Milk Marketing Board Inc. Maplewood Meats Modern Dairy Systems LLC Northwood Flooring Nowak Construction Oconto County Lumber Inc. Oconto Electric Cooperative P&D Sales & Service Precision Carts Peshtigo National Bank Peshtigo Times/Times Saver Ranger City Distributing Inc. Rhodes - Charapata Funeral Home Riesterer & Schnell Inc. Rural Mutual Ins. - Mel Turner Gross Seefeldt Farms Seymour's Meat Processing United Cooperative

Village Pharmacy Inc.

Bronze—\$25 to \$100

Bank North BarnStormers Coleman Chiropractic Center LLC Coleman Floral Coleman—Pound Lioness Club
Countryside Veterinary Clinic LLC Chrysler World Dair-Ray Vet Service Dama Plumbing & Heating Inc. Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust Foxland Harvester Inc. Fuelle Painting & Portables LLC J&T Electric & Supply Inc. Jakes Jumpers Jeff & Rosie Nowak Jiz's Fortiers Marinette County Fair Association Marinette Farm & Garden Peshtigo Pharmacy Rymer Heating LLĆ Schaffer Park Resort Toby's Spray Painting & Sandblasting Wisconsin Building Supply Witt Ford



Free fishing Weekend and STATE PARKS OPEN HOUSE DAY! *JUNE 1-2, 2013*



Free Fishing Weekend is June 1 – 2.

Fish anywhere in Wisconsin without a license or trout stamp on Free Fishing Weekend. This includes all inland waters and Wisconsin's side of the Great Lakes and Mississippi River. Other fishing rules apply, such as limits on the number and size of fish you can keep and any seasons when you must release certain fish species. So, pack up the family or call your friends and head to the water for fishing fun. (Pssst! We also have Winter Free Fishing Weekend. Next year it will be on January 18-19, 2014.)

State Parks Open House Day is Sunday, June 2.

All state park vehicle admission sticker fees and all state trail pass fees on all department owned properties are waived this day! Area state parks include:

Menominee River State Recreation Area is open yearround from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. The southern portion of the property has primitive hiking trails and canoe/walk-in campsites.

Directions: The property is located in northeast Marinette County along several miles of the Menominee River. No single road traverses the entire property. The lower property has five maintained access roads with parking areas that connect to town roads. These roads are not plowed in the winter and may be difficult to travel during wet periods of the year.

Governor Thompson State Park is open year-round from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. The office is open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. during summer.

Directions: From Crivitz, travel northwest on County Highway A to County Highway X (four-way stop). Turn left on County Highway X. Continue on Highway X past the High Falls Reservoir bridge and then turn right on Parkway Road. Go north about half a mile on Parkway Road and then turn left on Ranch Road. Go west on Ranch Road about one mile to Paust Lane. Turn right (north) on Paust Lane to enter the park. Geographic coordinates are 45° 19' 11.72" N, 88° 13' 13.7" W.

The Peshtigo River State Forest has twenty five miles of river, 3,200 acres of water and 9,200 acres of forest on the Peshtigo River State Forest, the natural gem of Marinette County. Established in 2001, the property is Wisconsin's newest state forest. It was purchased from the Wisconsin Public Service Corporation and includes the Potato Rapids Flowage, located 20 miles southeast of the main forest. This long, linear state forest borders some of the most beautiful and exciting sections of the Peshtigo River. Anglers know the river's free-flowing portion for its excellent fly-fishing; paddlers brave the Midwest's longest continuous whitewater rapids; and boaters can access more than 3,000 acres of flowage from 15 boat landings.

Location: In northeastern Wisconsin in Marinette County. Neighboring Governor Thompson State Park, in which the Peshtigo River State Forest headquarters is located, offers many additional recreational opportunities.

Copper Culture State Park is an independently-operated museum in an old farmhouse details the life of the Copper Complex. The museum is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.

Directions: From US Highway 41 south, exit State Highway 22. At the round-about, turn right on Copper Culture Way. At the stop sign, turn left to enter the state park. From US Highway north, exit State Highway 22. Take Highway 22 west on the round-about. At the next roundabout, turn right onto Copper Culture Way. At the stop sign, turn left to enter the state park.

For more information about these and other state parks, please visit http://dnr.wi.gov or call your local DNR office.



PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF OAK WILT

Kyoko Scanlon, plant pest and disease specialist, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

If you value your oak trees, do not prune them from April through July. Pruning in spring and early summer makes oak trees vulnerable to oak wilt, a fatal fungal disease of oaks in the red oak group, such as northern red, northern pin and black oaks. The risk of oak wilt moving from one tree to another is highest April through July.

Oak Wilt confirmed counties in WI (August 2012) Note: Oak wilt was first confirmed in Lincoln, Sawyer, and Vilas counties in August 2012.



Oak Wilt in Wisconsin

In fact, homeowners should avoid wounding oaks in *any* way from April through July. Any action that provides an opening into the tree, such as carving initials into the tree, accidentally cutting exposed roots with a lawn mower, or attaching a birdfeeder or clothes line, could provide an opportunity for the oak wilt fungus to invade and establish itself in the tree. Just 15 minutes could be enough time for the beetles that transmit the disease to land on a fresh wound and infect your tree.



Oak Wilt Symptoms

While using paint or a wound dressing is not normally recommended on pruning cuts or wounded surfaces on most trees, oaks are an exception from April through July. If you need to prune oaks during April through July, an immediate light painting of wounds is recommended during this time to help protect against the spread of oak wilt by beetles.

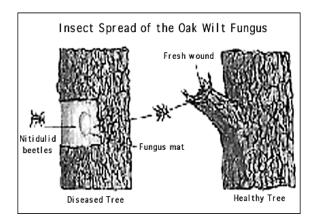


Progression of Oak Wilt along a forest edge

While the risk of spreading oak wilt is low after July, homeowners should avoid pruning or wounding oaks until November, to be on the safe side. Check with your municipality to find out if they have their own oak wilt ordinances that you should follow as well.

How oak wilt spreads

Oak wilt can spread from a diseased tree to a healthy tree through a connected root system as well as by insects. Very small sap beetles transport fungal spores by landing on fungal mats found beneath the cracked bark of trees that died the previous year. The spores are then transmitted from the beetle body onto the fresh wound of a healthy oak tree while the beetle is feeding at the pruned or damaged site. The beetles that transmit oak wilt disease are not capable of boring into a tree.



If a wound is left unprotected, a new oak wilt pocket may develop in a location where oak wilt did not previously exist and will radiate to other oaks through the connected root systems. If no management steps are taken, the pocket could continue to expand year after year. Once oak wilt establishes itself in an area, control of the disease is difficult and costly. Prevention is the best approach.

How oak wilt kills

Every year, the disease kills many oaks in the state by interfering with the tree's water and nutrient-conducting systems, essentially starving the tree. Leaves begin to wilt, and the tree may eventually die. Trees in the red oak group are especially vulnerable. Once wilting symptoms become visible, the tree loses most of its leaves and dies very quickly, often within weeks. Trees in the white oak group - those with rounded or lobed leaves - are more resistant to oak wilt, and the disease progresses much more slowly, often one branch at a time. White oaks could live with oak wilt for many years, and some trees may recover from the disease.



Anyone interested in learning more about oak wilt and other forest pests, as well as tree pruning, should visit the Wisconsin DNR website at http://dnr.wi.gov (Keyword: Forest Health) for more information. You can also call your local UW-Extension or DNR office.

Joe and Linda Charlier Win Tree Farmer Award

By Steve Kaufman, Wisconsin DNR



Joe and Linda Charlier of Green Bay, WI, did not expect to receive recognition for the hard work and dedication they had put into managing their forest land. But they were more than honored when they found out they had not only been nominated, but were named the 2012 Tree Farmers of the Year for District seven, which includes Marinette, Oconto, Brown, and Menominee Counties. Joe and Linda were presented the award at the annual meeting of the Phoenix Falls chapter of the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association. The WWOA is an organization which aims to increase landowner knowledge of their forest through educational workshops and connecting landowners with resource professionals.

The award is given by the Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee and sponsored by the American Forest Foundation, based in Washington, D.C. Tree farmers are judged on forest management activities, such as sustainable timber harvests, tree planting initiatives, environmental protection efforts, wildlife habitat enhancements, and efforts to promote sustainable forestry.

Joe and Linda purchased 25 acres of forestland in Marinette County in 1989 and bought another 25 acres in 1999. Their property contains mostly oak forest and red pine plantation. 21 years ago, a tornado heavily damaged much of the oak forest, but they salvaged the wind-damaged timber through a timber harvest. Oak and maple saplings have now grown back where the tornado went through. However, red maple has overtaken the oak saplings and the trees are growing so close together it is greatly affecting their growth. So Joe and Linda, with some help from friends, completed almost 20 acres of timber stand improvement work which involves selecting good quality oak saplings and then "releasing" them from competition from other saplings by removing the trees around them. This results in converting a low-vigor red maple and oak forest to a vigorous red oak forest which now has the potential to become a high value red oak forest and will have greater wildlife value.

In 2011 they completed a 20 acre red pine thinning, about five acres of oak thinning, and a small aspen clear-cut. This timber sale was set-up and administered by Tom and Leslyn Jacobs of Crivitz, who are private consulting foresters. Joe and Linda have also planted trees, pruned trees, and maintained blue bird houses on their property. They have been proactive with the management of their forest, utilizing the advice of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources foresters and DNR forest health specialists to help guide them with the management of their land.

Joe has recently become involved in the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association. For landowners from Marinette, Oconto, Brown, or Menominee Counties interested in joining WWOA, contact Jesse Sebero at 715-923-2077 or visit www.wisconsinwoodlands.org.

For landowners interested in working with a professional forester to help manage their forest lands, contact your local DNR forester for a list of private consulting foresters or visit the DNR http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestLandowners/assist.html

OUTDOOR BURNING GUIDELINES FOR MARINETTE COUNTY

Contributed by Jolene Ackerman, WDNR



- ✓ Burning permits are required for residential burning on the ground and in barrels when the ground is not completely snow-covered. This applies to areas outside incorporated cities and villages. For burning restrictions within city and village limits, contact local officials.
- ✓ Burning permits can be obtained on the Internet (dnr.wi.gov keyword "burn"), by calling 1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876), at DNR offices, or from Emergency Fire Wardens.
- ✓ A special burning permit needs to be obtained from a DNR office for brush piles larger than 6'x6'x6' and for broadcast burns greater than one acre in size.
- ✓ Check daily for burning restrictions by calling 1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876) or check the DNR web site dnr.wi.gov (keyword "burn") and select your county. When calling, the Marinette County code is 38. Burning restrictions will be updated and posted daily by 11am.
- ✓ Burning is restricted to pine needles, leaves, grass, brush, clean unfinished wood and confidential papers. These restrictions apply all year long.
- ✓ Campfires, for warming or cooking purposes, do not require a burning permit and are allowed anytime except during Emergency Burning Restrictions.
- ✓ Your fire must be attended at all times until it is completely extinguished. Should your fire escape, you can be held liable for all resulting suppression costs and damages.



Contact your local DNR office for more information, or visit the website on the graphic above for more information on permits.

ORPHANED WILDLIFE & YOU

From Wisconsin DNR - http://dnr.wi.gov

Orphaned wildlife

During the warmer months of spring and summer, the frequency of human-wildlife encounters increases, especially those involving young animals of the year. While most of these encounters are harmless, there are times when well-intentioned people interfere in wildlife situations because they incorrectly assume an animal is orphaned.



What to do if you find orphaned wildlife

If it is determined that an animal is injured, sick or orphaned, contact the DNR or a licensed wildlife rehabilitator immediately. Wildlife rehabilitators are licensed individuals trained and equipped to provide temporary care and treatment to injured, sick and orphaned wild animals for the purpose of release back into the wild. Never attempt to rehabilitate wildlife on your own. Wild animals can carry diseases that can be transmitted to humans and pets. They are also capable of inflicting injury to themselves or others as they fight to defend themselves against a perceived threat (humans). They have very specific dietary and housing requirements that are not easily met in captivity. Plus, rehabilitating wildlife without a license is against the law in Wisconsin.

Contact a wildlife rehabilitator immediately, if any of the following apply:

- The animal's parent is dead or no longer in the area (trapped and relocated).
- The animal has been handled by a predator.
- The animal is bleeding.
- The animal appears injured.
- The animal is emaciated.
- The animal has diarrhea.
- There are flies, fly eggs or maggots present on the animal.
- The animal is in a dangerous location.
- The animal is shivering.

Visit http://dnr.wi.gov for a list of Wisconsin's licensed wildlife rehabilitators, or contact the DNR's wildlife rehabilitation liaison at 715-359-5508 if you are having trouble locating a wildlife rehabilitator in your area. Until transport to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator can be arranged, any sick, injured and/or orphaned wildlife should be placed inside a ventilated container in a dark, warm and quiet place away from human disturbances, such as children and pets. **Do not** provide food or water, as this can do more harm than good if the animal is not in optimal body condition or offered the wrong diet.

Common Wisconsin species

The following are tips for determining whether these common animals are truly orphaned. For the protection of all young wildlife, please do not revisit a nest site and do not let dogs and cats near the area.

Cottontail rabbits

Rabbits commonly make shallow fur and grass-lined



nests in the middle of lawns, by sidewalks and in gardens. To avoid attracting the attention of predators to her nest, mother rabbits do not stay with her young, but only visit the nest briefly at dawn and dusk for a quick feeding. The babies' eyes open at one week and they leave the nest at about 2-3 weeks. A cottontail rabbit approximately the size of a softball (4-5 inches long) with upward pointed ears is capable of being on its own and should be left alone. These animals can have multiple litters each year so baby animals may be encountered any time from spring through fall.

Tip: If a nest is disturbed by a pet, child or because of lawn work, the nest can be rebuilt and the babies replaced and the mother will most likely return. To determine if the nest is abandoned, you can place leaves or grasses in a crisscross pattern over the nest and check it the following morning. If the pattern has been disturbed, then you know the mother has been there to feed the babies. Do not keep visiting the nest, as your scent could lead predators right to the babies.

Squirrels

Baby grey squirrels are about the size of a human thumb when born. Their eyes open at about four weeks of age and they begin to explore outside the nest area. They are not weaned until they are 8 weeks old and they cannot survive on their own until they are at least 12 weeks old. Squirrels with bushy tails that are approximately half of the size of adults are old enough to be on their own. These animals can have multiple litters each year so baby animals may be encountered any time from spring through fall.



Tip: If the squirrel is so young that its eyes are still sealed shut, it has probably fallen from its nest. If uninjured, the youngster should be placed back in its nest, if it is safe to do so. If the squirrel cannot safely be placed back in its nest, place the squirrel on a soft ravel-free cloth and place it at the base of the tree with the nest. There is a good chance the mother will find the baby and return it to the nest herself. Keep an eye on the young squirrel from indoors or from a distance so your presence doesn't prevent the mother from returning, and so you can watch for possible predators. If, after an hour or so, the mother hasn't picked up the baby, call your local licensed wildlife rehabilitator for further advice. Squirrels that fall that are injured or not retrieved will need to be taken to a wildlife rehabilitator for help. Squirrels that follow people, pets or children are orphans and also need to be taken into care.

Raccoons

Raccoons typically make their dens in tree cavities, but will sometimes occupy the attics and chimneys of



houses, if accessible. Baby raccoons are born into litters of 2 to 6. Their eyes begin to open at about 3 weeks of age and at 4 weeks, teeth begin to erupt. At 4-6 weeks, raccoon kits are capable of walking, climbing and

Continued next page



running, and may begin to explore alternate den sites with their mother. Weaning occurs at 8-12 weeks, but the offspring will remain with their mother until the following spring.

Tip: If young kits are wandering alone outside of the den before the age of 4-6 weeks, it is usually an indication that the mother has been gone for several days (e.g., trapped or dead) and a wildlife rehabilitator should be contacted. If raccoons have taken up residence in your house, they can usually be forced to relocate by making the area less appealing. To do this, place ammonia soaked rags, a radio set on a talk or rock station and bright lights at the entrance for several days in a row. The mother will likely relocate the babies to another den site, carrying one baby at a time. If you find healthy raccoon kits outside of their den, they can be placed in a ventilated box at the entrance overnight for the mother to retrieve. If the babies are still there the next morning, contact a wildlife rehabilitator. Preventatives measures are needed to ensure that another raccoon will not occupy that space in the future, so be sure to close up any possible points of entry and/or cap your chimney after the entire family has dispersed.

Deer

Baby deer can be as small as three pounds when first born. They are weak and cannot walk well and lack the strength to follow their mother as she feeds. Fawns are protected from predators by their coloration and their lack of body odor. The mother deer only comes to feed the fawn every few hours and the feeding is accomplished quickly.

Tip: If you find a fawn lying alone and you don't see any of the signs listed below, you should back away and not go near the spot again. Do not touch the fawn or bring children, pets and friends to look at it because to do so endangers the baby. Your scent can lead a predator right to the well-hidden fawn. If a fawn is in obvious danger, such as in the middle of the road, you can use gloves to pick up the fawn and move it 50 feet off the road. The mother deer will find the baby. Due to chronic wasting disease concerns, wildlife rehabilitators are currently not allowed to provide care for orphaned fawns in most of the southern region of Wisconsin, so it is critical that people protect the babies by leaving them alone to be raised by their natural mothers.



Songbirds

Songbirds lay a clutch of eggs in a nest, which, depending on the species, can be in a tree, a bush, the cavity of a tree, a bird house, on an artificial structure like a porch light fixture or on the ground. Young birds are usually tended to by both parents. Incubation and time in the nest after hatching varies among species. Once the eggs have hatched, the featherless "nestlings" remain in the nest for some time, completely dependent on the parents for warmth and food. Baby songbirds leave the nest just prior to the full development of their feathers and, thus, cannot fly for several days to a week. During this time, they are referred to as "fledglings" and hop around on the ground building their strength and coordination under the watch of their parents.

Tip: If you find a fledgling, keep it away from predators, such as cats and dogs, and watch from a distance to see if the parents are still tending to it. If the parents do not return within an hour, contact a wildlife rehabilitator. If you find an uninjured bird on the grass and it is featherless or unable to hop from one spot, it needs to be replaced in its nest. It is a common misconception that parents won't return to care for a baby bird if humans have touched it. Birds actually have a poorly developed sense of smell, so your scent will not keep them from caring for their babies! If the nest has been destroyed, an artificial nest can be created with an old margarine tub or a slated pint-sized container (those typically used for berries). Make sure the container has drainage holes on the bottom and line it with a thick layer of paper towel, so the babies are snug in the new nest.

Mallards

Mallards lay approximately 6-14 creamy to greenish-buff colored eggs in a nest. Mallard nests are typically concealed in wetland grasses or by bodies of water, but they can also be found in unusual places such as flower pots, parking lots,

or on rooftops. The hen will not sit on her nest until all the eggs have been laid. Once she starts to incubate the nest, it will be approximately 23-29 days before the babies hatch. Mallard ducklings are born with their eyes open and a covering of downy feathers, but depend on their mother for warmth and protection from predators. The mother will lead them from their nest to water when they are about 24 hours old.



Tip: If the nest is in a dangerous place or you are concerned about the hen getting the babies safely to water, you can call a wildlife rehabilitator for advice. It is not uncommon for a duckling to get temporarily separated from its family. If you see a duckling alone, stop, look and listen for any signs that the mother and siblings may be in the area. If the family is not nearby or does not accept the baby within an hour, do not attempt to place an orphaned duckling with another family in the wild. The orphan will need to be placed in the care of a wildlife rehabilitator.

How can I prevent orphans?

- Check for nests before cutting down trees, brush, or mowing. If possible, farmers should push back the spring cutting of hayfields until July 15th to help protect grassland nesting birds and waterfowl.
- Keep pets indoors or on a leash to prevent injury to wildlife.
- Place caps on chimneys, vents, and window wells to prevent animals from nesting there.
- Educate children to respect wild animals and not to harass or catch them.
- Slow down when driving and keep your eyes open for wildlife, especially at dawn and dusk.

What is the law on assisting wildlife?

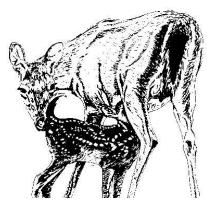
Other than a few species which are allowed to be possessed without a license, no person may possess live native wild animals without a license or permit from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR). A permit from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is also required to possess all native birds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. If it is absolutely necessary to help a young animal that is injured or its mother has been killed, a person may legally have the animal in their possession for up to twenty-four hours for the purpose of transporting the animal to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator or for release in a more appropriate location. To get the name of a wildlife rehabilitator in your area, contact the WDNR's Call Center (1-888-WDNRINFO / 936-7463) or Bureau of Wildlife Management (608-266-8204). You can also visit the WDNR's online directory of licensed wildlife rehabilitators at dnr.wi.gov, search "rehab".

Is there a risk associated with assisting wildlife?

Some of the wildlife encountered can transmit diseases to humans. Even young animals can bite or cause injury, which is how many diseases can be transmitted to humans. The best way to protect yourself and the animal is to avoid contact. For more information about diseases visit <u>dnr.wi.gov</u> and search "wildlife health".

Remember

Most young animals that seem abandoned do not need help. Animals take care of their young in a variety of ways, and what may be seen as abnormal behavior is just a part of the animal's routine. A young animal should never be removed.



MARINETTE COUNTY PARKS & FORESTRY OFFICES HAVE MOVED!



As of May 15, 2013 the Parks and Forestry Departments have moved into the Peshtigo Highway Shop at 501 Pine Street, Peshtigo. The move will allow the sharing of administrative duties and maintenance of the big equipment.

Even though the parks and forestry offices have moved, you can still pick up Fuel Wood Permits, Park Stickers, Marinette County Forest Camping stickers and reservations for camping lodges and shelters at the Courthouse.

The Land Information Department, located on the first floor of the courthouse, will be able to help you get your sticker or permit of choice. This gives the residents of Marinette County another option to acquire permits or stickers. Reservations for camping, lodges or shelters can still be made on-line at www.marinettecounty.com/parks or by calling the Parks Department at 715-732-7525.



Northwoods Journal Volume 11, Issue 1

The Northwoods Journal focuses on various outdoor recreation opportunities and local environmental topics to inform readers about natural resource use, management, and recreation in Marinette County.

Published in cooperation by:

- Marinette Co. Land & Water Conservation
- Marinette Co. Parks & Outdoor Recreation
- Marinette Co. UW-Extension

UW-Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA. To ensure equal access, please make requests for reasonable accommodations as soon as possible prior to the scheduled program. If you need this material in another format, please contact the UW-Extension office at 715-732-7510.

Please send comments to:
Marinette County LWCD
1926 Hall Ave, Marinette, WI 54143
abartels@marinettecounty.com

Area Events Calendar



May 27-Oct.

Area Museums Open. Marinette & Menominee County Historical Museums, Peshtigo Fire Museum, Amberg Historical Complex, Busville Doll Museum (Crivitz), Land of Oz Museum (Wausaukee) & West Shore Fishing Museum (M-35 north of Menominee, MI). Visit http://therealnorth.com/museums.htm or call the Marinette/Menominee Area Chamber of Commerce at (715) 735-6681.

June-October

Stephenson Island Market (new name and location). Marinette Farmer's Market will be at Stephenson Island, located North on Hwy 41, off the Interstate Bridge between the WI and MI borders. 3-7pm on Tuesday evenings and 7am-noon on Friday mornings. No Saturdays.

June-August

Crivitz Flea & Farmers' Market, every Thursday from 8am-4pm across from the Village Hall at 800 Henriette Avenue. Wide variety of vendors with handmade arts & crafts, antiques, collectables and much more. Contact Barbara Uhl at 715-854-2030 to rent space by day or season up to first market date.

June-August

Bands at Badger Park. Badger Park in Peshtigo. Wednesday nights, 6:30-8:30pm. Free musical entertainment with concessions available at 5:30pm. Call Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce at 715-582-0327 for more information.

June-August

Concerts in the Park. Sundays at 2pm at Evergreen Park in Wausaukee. Refreshments are available, bring your own seating.

June 7-9

Copperfest in Oconto. Kickoff breakfast will be 6:00-8:30am - fabulous weekend of family fun with live music, entertainment, children's activities, street market, & plenty of refreshments. Friday 5-11p.m., Saturday 11a.m.-midnight, Sunday 11a.m.-5p.m. Small admission fee. For more information call Oconto Chamber of Commerce at (920) 834-6254.

June 8

Annual Interstate Stock & Custom Car Show. 7am-3:30pm on Stephenson Island in Marinette. Anyone wishing to show a car, truck or motorcycle is welcome - entry fee of \$5 required. Free to the public. Food, music, games and prizes awarded. Awards at 2:30pm. June 7, Car Cruise throughout the area will meet at 6pm at the Stephenson Library Parking lot. New this year for the kids is a scale model car contest and sponsored by Stephenson Cycle Werx. For more information call Jim Armstrong at 906-863-3036.

June 8

M&M Community Flea Markets. 7am-2pm. No charge for set up but vendors will sign a waiver & set up along pre-marked spaces at left entrance to Mall parking lot. This is a new location, set up next to old car dealership building, just south of Mikolas Jewelry. Tents available to rent from ACE Hardware. Questions email hbayerl@hotmail.com.

June 8-9

Michigan's Free Fishing Weekend. Two days twice a year, families & friends can enjoy Michigan Fishing, for FREE! All fishing license fees will be waived for two days. Residents & visitors can fish on both inland and Great Lakes' waters for all species of fish. All other fishing regulations still apply. Call 906-228-6561 for more information.

June 8-16

31st Porterfield Country Music Festival. Green's Green Acres, 6 miles west of Marinette just off Hwy 64. Gates open at 9am June 8th. Original artists, camping, live music, concessions and Nashville stars. Check www.countrymusicfestival.com or call 866-456-4333 for info & tickets, 715-789-2130 for camping and 920-834-2465 for concessions.

June 14

Family Water Bash. At the Civic Center Pool from 6:15-8:15pm. (Regular admission rates apply). Theme is Country Music Night, for more information call the Recreation Department at 715-732-5222.

June 15

2nd Annual Jim Hodge Memorial Run. All proceeds will be directed to the BAMC Foundation to support patients with lung issues and to promote organ donation in the Marinette/Menominee community. All donations are tax deductible. Run will be held at the YMCA in Menominee. Run starts at 9:30am, registration starts at 8am day of race or online at Jim Hodge Run/Active. Cost is \$20 for 5k and \$30 for 10k.

June 16

Free Admission for Dads & Families. Free pool admission for families who are accompanied by their Dad from 1-4:30pm and free tennis for dads and their families from 12-5pm at the Civic Center indoor tennis courts. Call 715-732-5222 to reserve your court time.

June 18

Concerts in the Park – Marinette. 7pm, Stephenson Island Chamber of Commerce Performance Center, Highway 41-Interstate Bridge, Marinette, WI. The Tinker Boys - a wonderful blend of vocals, guitar, fiddle and banjo. Concerts are presented by Marinette Menominee Area Chamber of Commerce.

June 15

Meet the Fleet at M&M Yacht Club, Menominee MI. 10am-4pm, take free boat rides on both power and sail boats. Rain date June 16. Call 906-863-7140 or email info@mmyc.org for more information.

June 21

Kids Fishing Derby. 8am-noon at Stephenson Island. Marinette Recreation Department and Marinette County Trout Unlimited are sponsoring the event with awards and prizes in many categories. Participants should provide their own tackle and bait. No charge, but pre-registration is required at the Civic Center. Open to children ages five and up. Younger children may participate with a parent. Call 715-732-5222 for more information

June 21

Family Water Bash. Marinette Recreation Department is sponsoring water bash at the Civic Center Pool from 6:15-8:15pm (regular admission rates apply). This week's theme is "Something's Fishy". Call 715-732-5222 for more information.

June 23-24

Big Unit's Island Classic Golf Tournament. June 23 & 24 36-hole 2 man best ball using 100% of your handicap. June23/1pm shotgun start and June 24/10am shotgun start at The Four Season Island Resort. Proceeds to benefit military veterans. Call the Four Seasons at 877-324-5244 to make a reservation or visit www.thefourseasonswi.com.

June 27

Concerts in the Park – Menominee. 7pm, Great Lakes Memorial Marina Band Shell, First Street in Menominee, MI. Jazz Spectrum - plays ballads to big band sound. Concerts are presented by Marinette Menominee Area Chamber of Commerce.

June 30

Annual Art for All. Art show and sale will take place at the Great Lakes Memorial Park from 10am-4pm with over 50 artists from all over the Midwest participating. This is a free event with live music, performances by First Street Academy of Dance, food vendors and a children's art area with "Make and Take" art projects. Visit Art For All on Facebook or visit www.artforallinc.com. Rain or Shine.

June 30

BAMC Menominee River Century Bike Ride. Begins at Marinette High School & includes 5 routes through scenic & historical sites in both Marinette & Menominee Counties with 10 fully stocked rest stops along the way. The 15K Family Fun Route features a rest stop with games, prizes and kid-friendly snacks. Registration discounts are offered for early registrants, groups and families. For more information and to register, visit www.mrcride.com or find us on Facebook!

Harmony Arboretum Schedule of Events

Located seven miles west of the City of Marinette off of Highway 64, then ½ mile south on County E. All programs are free and at Harmony Arboretum unless otherwise stated. For more information, call UW-Extension at 715-732-7510 or Land & Water Conservation at 715-732-7780.



June 1: Early Season Management of Tomatoes & Peppers, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

These two truly warm-season vegetables can benefit significantly from proper early season care and reward your efforts with higher yield and quality.

June 15: Bird Hike, 6-8 a.m. See page 1 sidebar for more details

June 20: Irrigation & Home Gardens, 6:30-8:00 p.m. How much water do our various plants really need and how can we best deliver that water? All types of irrigation systems will be reviewed, including the newly operating solar-powered drip irrigation system in the orchard.

June 22: Garden Walk, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Take a walk through some spectacular local gardens. Northern Lights Master Gardeners are once again hosting the Garden Walk showcasing a wide variety of gardens styles, plants, and garden art. For more details and a map, call the UW-Extension office for a brochure. Donation requested \$10 per person in advance, \$12 on the day.

July 9: Tomato Pest Management, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. The pests are coming! The pests are coming! Actually, by this time, some of them will already be threatening the productivity of your garden's tomatoes, so join the discussion about pest identification, prevention, and management.



Update - Children's Learning Garden at Harmony Arboretum

This summer we'll be working on completing the Chipmunk's tunnel interior with dioramas of underground critters such as ants, badgers, & beetles. The photo below is a sample model by local artist Barbara Kane Anderson.



We'll also be adding more elements for kids to explore including a 'sea serpent' and stepping logs. There are several library programs scheduled throughout Marinette County this summer featuring "Animals of the Underground" that tie in with the tunnel, so come join in! Call your local library branch for a summer program schedule. Visit us at Harmony and see what we are doing!